

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary FY 17 Ogallala Aquifer Initiative

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: FY 17 Ogallala Aquifer Initiative		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Will the treatment you intend to implement using Ogallala Initiative EQIP funding result in conversion from irrigated land to non-irrigated land on 100% of the total contract acres?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will the treatment you intend to implement using Ogallala Initiative EQIP funding result in conversion from irrigated land to non-irrigated land on 75% of the total contract acres?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will the treatment you intend to implement using Ogallala Initiative EQIP funding result in conversion from irrigated land to non-irrigated land on 50% of the total contract acres?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Will the treatment you intend to implement using Ogallala Initiative EQIP funding result in conversion from irrigated land to non-irrigated land on 20% of the total contract acres?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Will the treatment you intend to implement using Ogallala Initiative EQIP funding result in nutrient management that exceeds the minimum requirements of NRCS Practice Standard 590 including the use of variable rate technologies for nutrient application using computer controlled equipment that adjusts fertilizer application based on management zones or grids?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Will the treatment you intend to implement using Ogallala Initiative EQIP funding result in conversion from a surface irrigation to a micro-irrigation system? Surface irrigation is defined as irrigation by means of a gravity distribution system (e.g. furrow, flood, graded border, level basin).	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Will the treatment you intend to implement using Ogallala Initiative EQIP funding result in water conservation treatment (water quality/water quantity? within a priority area identified in the Ogallala Initiative?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Will the treatment you intend to implement using Ogallala Initiative EQIP funding result in conversion from irrigated land to non-irrigated dry land on at least 10% of the total contract acres?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Will the treatment you intend to implement using Ogallala Initiative EQIP funding result in conversion from a surface irrigation to a low-pressure/improved sprinkler irrigation system? Surface irrigation is defined as irrigation by means of a gravity distribution system (e.g. furrow, flood, graded border, level basin).	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. Will the treatment you intend to implement using Ogallala Initiative EQIP funding result in a minimum 20% irrigation system efficiency improvement due to a conversion from a lower efficient irrigation system to a higher efficient irrigation system?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
11. Will the treatment you intend to implement using Ogallala Initiative EQIP funding result in wetlands being created, restored or enhanced to allow aquifer recharge?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. Contract will include practices that directly benefit pollinator habitat installation.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
3. Will water conserving crop rotation systems be implemented on the contract acres?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Is an existing center pivot being converted to a more efficient center pivot system?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Will advanced Irrigation Water Management be practiced for all irrigated land associated under contract?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

6. Will the irrigated land be under “no-till” or other form of “reduced” tillage as documented in the conservation plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Will a surface irrigation system be converted to SDI (subsurface drip irrigation); a LEPA, LESA, LPIC or PARM center pivot system; or a linear move system supplied by a pipeline?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Converting irrigated land to non-irrigated permanent vegetation. points can only be earned from question 1 or 2 but not both.	
1. Will at least 30% of the field under irrigation be converted to non-irrigated permanent grass.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will at least 20% of the field under irrigation be converted to non-irrigated permanent grass. (typically pivot corners)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

Efficiency: Local Issues: State Issues: National Issues: Final Ranking Score:
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This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative:	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:
Signature Date:	Signature Date: